

HERGÉ THE ADVENTURES OF TINTIN *

THE BLUE LOTUS







HISTORICAL NOTE

Hergé first published *Le Lotus Bleu* in the magazine *Le Petit Vingtième* in Brussels in 1934-5: the story itself is set in 1931. At that time Japanese troops were occupying parts of the Chinese mainland, and Shanghai, the great seaport at the mouth of the Yangtze Kiang, possessed an International Settlement, a trading base in China for Western nations, administered by the British and Americans. Hergé based his narrative freely upon the events of the time, including the blowing-up of the South Manchurian railway, which led to further incursions by Japan into China and ultimately to Japan's resignation from the League of Nations in 1933.

Artwork © 1946 by Casterman, Paris and Tournai.

Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number Afor 5851
© renewed 1974 by Casterman

Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number R 585356

Translation Text © 1983 by Methuen & Co. Ltd. London

American Edition © 1984 by Little, Brown and Company

Artwork Remastering © 2021 by Lapan

All rights reserved. Except as permitted under the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976, no part of this publication may be reproduced, distributed, or transmitted in any form or by any means, or stored in a database or retrieval system, without the prior written permission of the publisher.

Little, Brown and Company

Hachette Book Group 237 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10017 Visit our website at www.lb-kids.com

Little, Brown and Company is a division of Hachette Book Group, Inc.
The Little, Brown name and logo are trademarks of Hachette Book Group, Inc.

Library of Congress catalog card no. 83-82204 ISBN: 978-0-316-35856-9

30 29 28 27 26 25 24

Published pursuant to agreement with Casterman, Paris
Not for sale in the British Commonwealth
Printed in China

THE BLUE LOTUS

藍蓮花

TINTIN AND SNOWY are in India, guests of the Maharaja of Gaipajama, enjoying a well-earned rest. The evil gang of international drug smugglers, encountered in Cigars of the Pharaoh, has been smashed and its members are behind bars. With one exception. Only the mysterious gang-leader

is unaccounted for: he disappeared over a cliff.

But questions have still to be answered. What of the terrible Rajaijah juice, the 'poison of madness'? Where were the shipments of opium going, hidden in the false cigars? And who really was the master-mind behind the operation?













RRCQ 15.30

direct special
attention charles
attention argently
yokohama urgently
yokohama urgently
going oddly slow
going oddly slow
istanbul ten nasty
istanbul ten nasty
gaps in saturday
gaps in saturday
means tibetan
means tibetan
means tibetan
means tibetan
means tibetan
exombe
changes west
changes west



My direction-finder shows W5W, ENE. In theory the transmitter should be along a line in the same direction, passing through Gaipajama.

















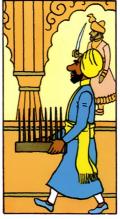
















I also see a fakir, a disgrace to our brother-hood, dedicated to your downfall. He is close to you . . . very close to you. He spies upon you . . . He has a terrible weapon . . . and there is no defence.

Beware ... I see another man ... an Oriental man ... His hair is black ... He wears glasses ... Take every care! He has sworn to destroy you!



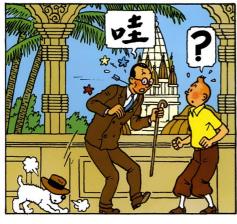












































































































... Some European kid had the nerve to back up a rickshaw boy ... He'd knocked me flying and I was teaching him a lesson!
... Trying to stop me beating a native ... Intolerable!



What's the world coming to? Can't we even teach that yellow rabble to mind their manners now? It's up to us to civilise the savages! We soon won't have any control at all ... and look what we've done for them, all the benefits ...







You did that on purpose, yellow scum!
... I'll teach you respect for your
betters!



Where was I? . . . Oh, yes, our superb western civilisation . . .



I'll try to find out the name of that young ruffian, the one who had a go at you. Since I'm Chief of Police of the Shanghai International Settlement that shouldn't be difficult. Then I'll teach our young Don Quixote a lesson!









My dear Mr Tintin, you must go back to India at once. The Maharaja of Gaipajama is in great danger. I sent a Chinese messenger to tell you to guard the Maharaja. Didn't you see him?



Despicable creatures!
Such persons stop at nothing! Believe me, you were wrong to leave the Maharaja.
Who knows what they will do in your absence? . . .



Who are 'they'?

Please pardon me, I cannot tell you more: my own life would be in danger . . . But I beg you to take heed and go back to India.

I see . . . thank you. Maybe
I'll take the next boat back.
Meanwhile I'll telegraph the Maharaja to be on his guard.







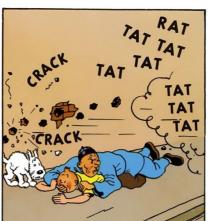


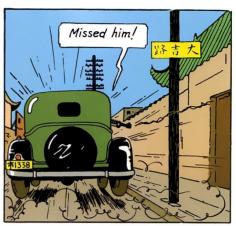


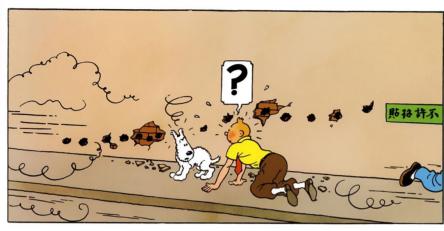


































































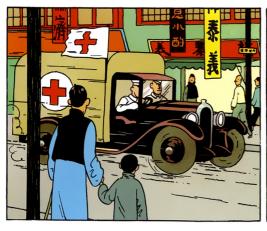


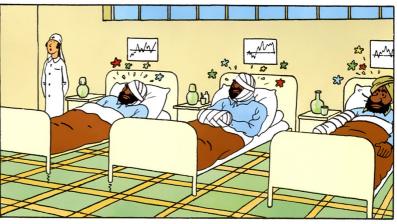


































































































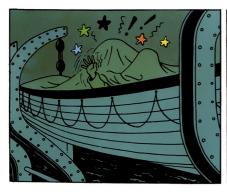


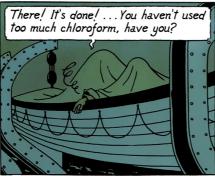


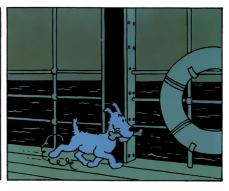












































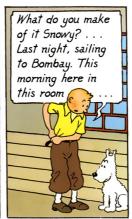


































Certainly, I owe you an apology for such a violent kidnapping. But the telegram recalling you to India was false. My son was to explain, the night you saw him, and to ask you to stay longer in Shanghai. Alas, he was unable to do so, and you set sail. But you must remain in China . . .









These are the headquarters of the Sons of the Dragon. We are a secret society dedicated to the fight against opium, the terrible drug causing such havoc in our country. Our greatest adversary is a Japanese, with whom you are acquainted. He is named Mitsuhirato? ...

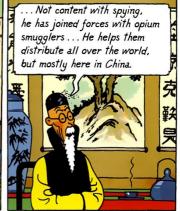
Mitsuhirato? ...











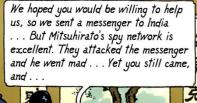


Yes, Excellency... All is well ... Tintin?... On the way to India... recalled by telegram, sent by me, of course... No, not easy... Those meddling Sons of the Dragon tried to keep him here... I had to take extreme measures...











































blizzard
ueda
location
location
tuesday
storm
storms
entraps
top
top
ghurkas







































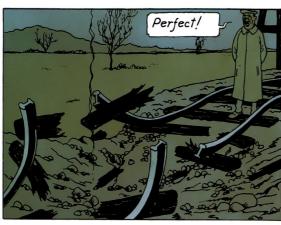






























































He! he! Don't say I didn't warn you! . . . China is an unhealthy place for little Nosy Parkers! . . .

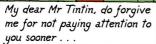














I'm going to enjoy myself, dear friend. Here on the outskirts of Shanghai no one saw you arrive, and no one will ever see you leave, if that's what I decide.



You are at my mercy. If I so wish, you will vanish! ... But all things considered, I don't want to kill you. No, on the contrary. I've decided to let you go .















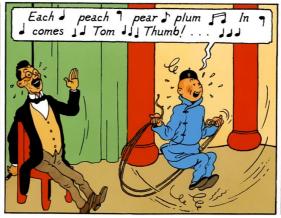




And Chang? . He's still not back either?



Whatever happens, I simply must find Tintin! ...





























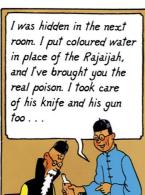




















































Hello? ... Yes? ...
Still not found him?
... Then search
harder! ... How
could he have passed
the city gates?





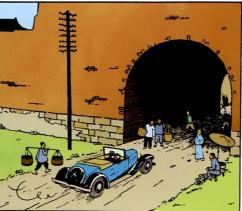
















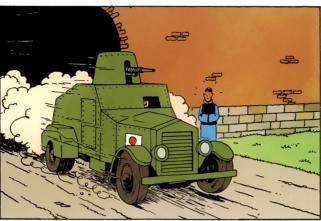




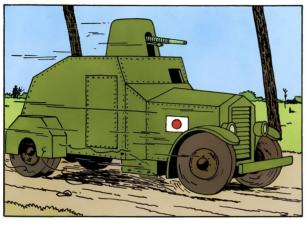




















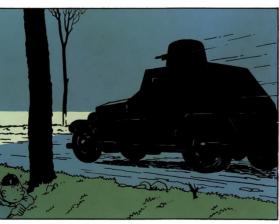








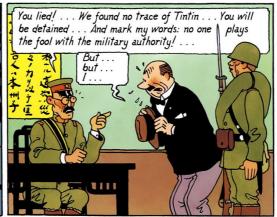


























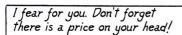


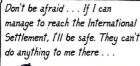










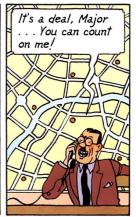








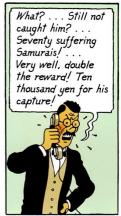


































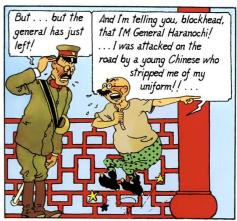








Major, there's a little









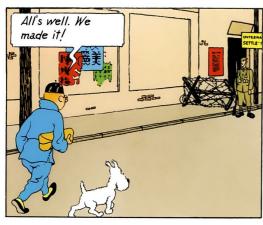






























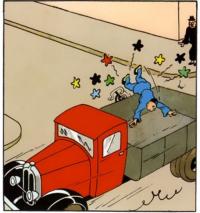


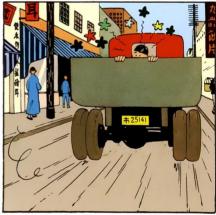


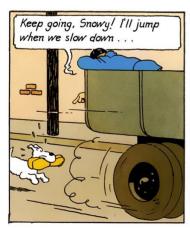
































PARIS
WELCOMES
INTERNATIONAL
CROSS-COUNTRY
CHAMPION



The President of the Pilchardanian Republic opens the national dog show . . .







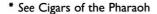
Shanghai:
Professor
Fang Hsi-ying
is home from
his lengthy
lecture tour in
America. The
world authority on madness
enjoys a welldeserved rest
in his exquisite garden



































































Hello?... Richards?
Take Brown and go
to the Fang Hsi-ying
house on the Street
of Infinite Wisdom.
Tintin is on his way
there. Handcuff him
and bring him here!









Dear Chen,
I have been suged by.
Chinese gangoten demanding
a ransom of 50,000 dollar.
It is essential the police
do not look for them. If
they are alarmed they
will kill me.

The ransom is to be left, within a fortnight, at the old temple about an hour's journey from Hukow on the right bank of the Yangtze Kiang. As I do not possess sufficient money











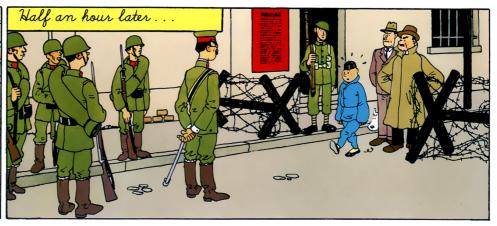






Excuse me, you're quite wrong
... Have you papers allowing
you to be in the Settlement?
...
No, you haven't ... So I have
the right to expel you ... If
the Japanese arrest you, that's
none of my business ...



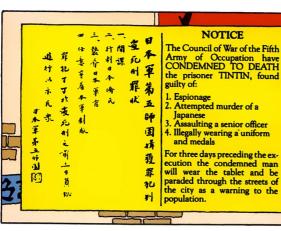








Venerable Master, Tintin is a prisoner of the Japanese and they've condemned him to death! ... I saw posters in the city! ...









You really think he'll







Yes, but on two conditions.
First, that you join our
counter-espionage service.
Second, that you tell me
where you've hidden the
poison you stole . . .



That's all. Here are 10,000 dollars. You accept my proposition, I get you out tonight, and the money's yours.

















































My house, yes . . . It's the one next to where you were imprisoned.

As soon as I heard you'd been sentenced I rented this house. Then I made use of the three days you were being paraded to dig this tunnel . . .

We must leave the city at once. It will soon be light and the alarm will be raised . . . Ah, is everything ready?







Vanished? The prisoner vanished? ... Blockhead! ... When you're guarding a prisoner you don't let him escape ... And the major? ... What's the major going to say?



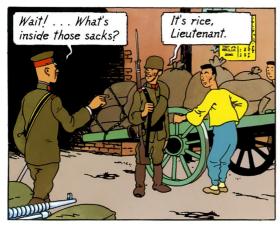












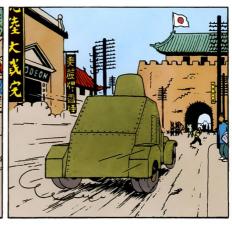






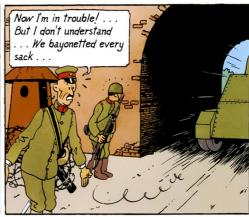


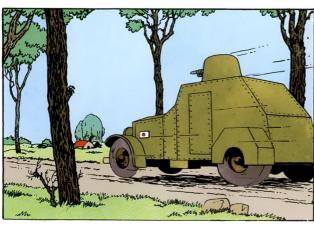








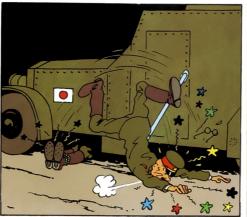




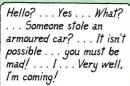


















Why didn't you go after them . . . immediately? . . . Answer me! . . . Why not?









Three-quarters of an hour since they took off! What are they doing?





Yes, General . . . We found the armoured car halted 20 kilometres away . . . Yes, we landed and had a look . . . Empty . . . No, no one at all . . . I don't know . . . But sir . . . Hello? . . . Hello? . . .



Bunglers, bunglers, bunglers! . . . The lot of them! . . . Who knows where Tintin is now?

Let's take it step by step. If we're going to save your son we must find Fang Hsi-ying. Then we'll take care of Mitsuhirato and his



I'm going tomorrow to
Hukow, on the Yangtze
Kiang. That's where the
ransom for the professor
is to be paid to the
kidnappers.



















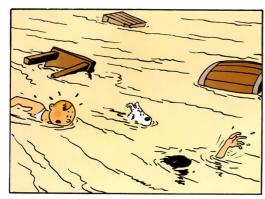


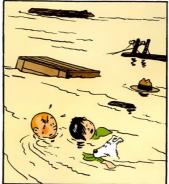


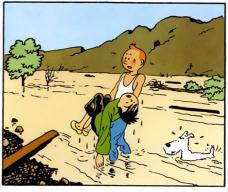


















I thought all white devils
were wicked, like those who
killed my grandfather and
grandmother long ago. During
the War of Righteous and
Harmonious
Fists, my
father said.

I thought all white devils
were
The Boxer
Rebellion,
yes.





... that all Chinese are cunning and cruel and wear pigtails, are always inventing tortures, and eating rotten eggs and swallows' nests ...



The same stupid Europeans are quite convinced that all Chinese have tiny feet, and even now little Chinese girls suffer agonies with bandages...



... designed to prevent their feet developing normally. They're even convinced that Chinese rivers are full of unwanted babies, thrown in when they are born.







I have just received a telegram . . . He caught a train this morning for Hukow . . .



Hukow? . . . But that's deep into Chinese territory. So long as he's there we can't touch him . . .



Now, Chang, what are you going to do?

My parents are lost ... I've nowhere to go ... Couldn't I come with you? ...









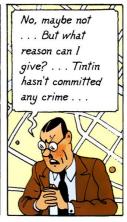


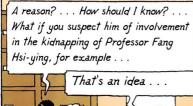


















That's it . .

We'll have the















POLICE HEADQUARTERS

All Chinese authorities are hereby directed to render whatever assistance may be required by the bearer of this pass.

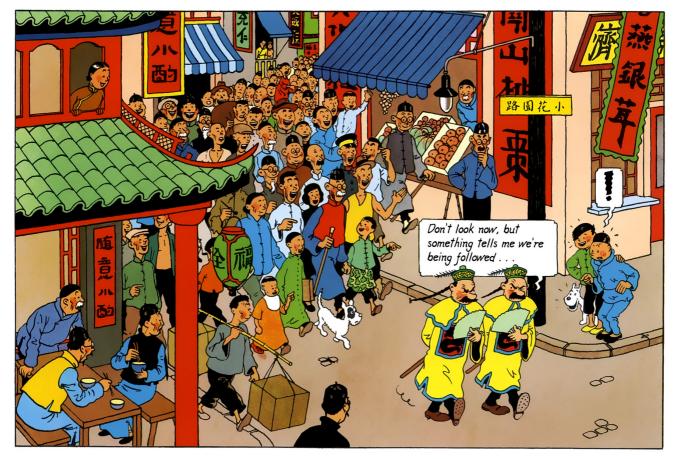


















































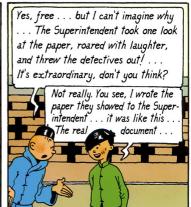


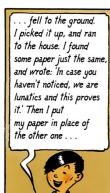






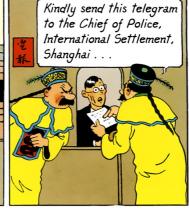




















































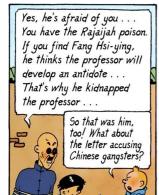






















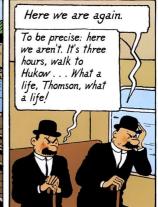


That's put him behind

bars ... Now, Chang,

































































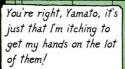
























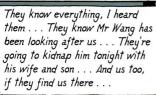


























































































































Meanwhile . . .

It was a mistake to pit your wits against mine, my dear Wang! . . . A big mistake! . . . But it's too late now . . . The time has come for you to die!



You smile? ... You think it's like a thriller, don't you? ... The hero rushes in at the last moment and saves your life ... Pardon my laughter! ... At this very moment your hero Tintin is already in my power!



We've been

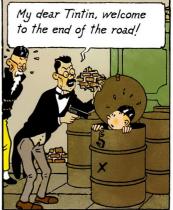
So you can abandon all hope! . . .
They say the Chinese aren't afraid to die. Well, I've prepared a fitting end for you! . . . Your son, Wang, your own mad son, will cut off your head! . . . Picture the scene . . . Your wife, Tintin, and you, all beheaded by your son! _ . . .













I knew perfectly well you were in the barrel ... You were at the Blue Lotus last night ... and had a good laugh at my expense, no doubt ... You heard the orders I gave Yamato ... Everything had gone your way ... But one of my men saw you leave and alerted me.

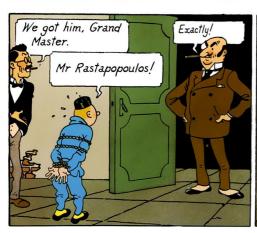


I told myself you certainly wouldn't be able to resist such a good opportunity, so I set a trap. I told them to leave you alone, they loosened the top of one barrel, and everything happened as I'd foreseen!



Cleverer than you thought, anyway! . . . Ah, here's an old friend of yours . . . He doesn't want to miss your





Rastapopoulos! ... Roberto Rastapopoulos! You've been trying to spike my guns for a long time ... Me, Rastapopoulos, king of drug smugglers ... Rastapopoulos, who went over a cliff near Gaipajama ... and you thought I died ... Rastapopoulos, alive and well ... And as always, coming out on top ... You, leader of the gang? ... Impossible!















^{*} See Cigars of the Pharaoh



















I knew perfectly well I'd been seen leaving the Blue Lotus. Nonetheless, I decided to visit godown No. 9 but I took a few precautions . . . Last night, the crew of the Harika Maru' were surprised by the Sons of the Dragon and put in irons. Some of our friends hid in the barrels to be delivered to you. Others waited for your men, then gave them a hand unloading the barrels . . . You know the rest . . .

























SHANGHAI NEWS 上海報

FANG HSI-YING FOUND: Professor Prisoner in Opium Den

SHANGHAI, Wednesday:

Professor Fang Hsi-ying has been found! The good news was flashed to us this morning.

Last week eminent scholar Fang disappeared on his way home from a party given by a friend. Police efforts to trace him were unavailing. No clues were found.

Young Euro-

reporter



Professor Fang Hsi-ying

ing Japanese pictured just after his forces. Secret release.

society Sons of the Dragon aided Tintin in the rescue. Fang Hsi-ying was kidnapped by an international gang of drug smugglers, now all safely in police custody.

A wireless transmitter was found by police at Blue Lotus opium den. The transmitter was used by the drug smugglers to communicate wth their ships on the high seas. Information radioed included sea routes, ports to be avoided, points of

embarkation and uploading. Home of Japanese subject Mitsuhirato was also searched. No comment, say police on reports of seizure of top-secret documents. Unconfirmed rumours suggest the papers concern undercover political activity by a neighbouring power. Speculation mounts that they disclose the recent Shanghai-Nanking railway incident as a pretext for extended Japanese occupation. League of Nations officials in Geneva will study the captured documents.

TINTIN'S OWN STORY

This morning, hero of the hour Mr Tintin, talked to us about his adventures



Tintin, rescuer of

reporter is the guest of Wang Mr Chen-yee at his host's picturesque villa on the Nanking

The young

Professor Fang Hsi-ying, with Snowy, his faithful companion. road. When we called, our

hero, young and smiling, greeted us wearing Chinese dress. Could this really be the scourge of the terrible Shanghai gangsters?

After our greetings and congratulations, we asked Mr Tintin to tell us how he succeeded in smashing the most dangerous organisation.

Mr Wang, a tall, elderly, venerable man with an impish smile said:

"You must tell the world it is entirely due to him that my wife, my son and I are alive today!"

With these words our interview was concluded, and we said farewell to the friendly reporter and his kindly host.

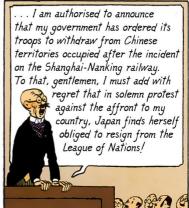
Young people carry posters of Tintin through Shanghai streets.



The conclusions of the Sub-Committee leave no room for doubt. The documents seized in Shanghai provide irrefutable proof. The attack upon the Shanghai-Nanking railway was planned and executed by a Japanese subject working upon direct orders from his government / . .



Gentlemen, make no mistake! I categorically deny the accusations contained in the report of the 873rd Sub-Committee. These accusations are an insult to which Japan declines to make any response other than silence and contempt! Nevertheless, to prove that the integrity of my country is beyond doubt























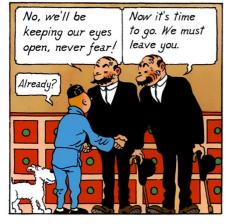






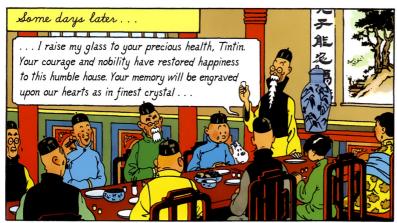






























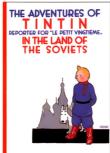


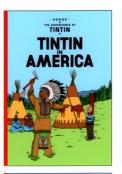


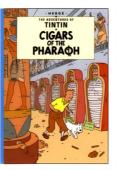
The Adventures of Tintin by Hergé

Collect all 23 of these adventures!

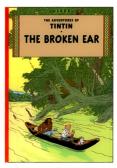






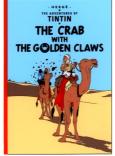


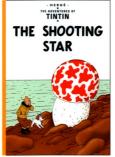


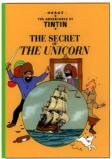


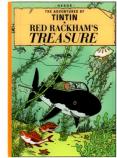


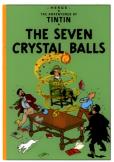


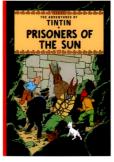


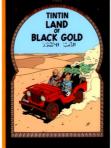


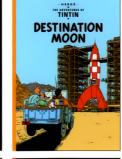




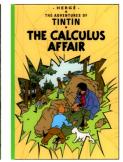


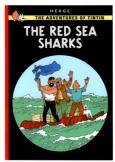




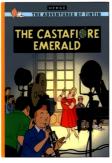






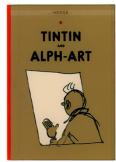












\$ 10.99



